



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

*Ready for School. Set for Life.*

## Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board Cochise Regional Partnership Council

### Meeting Minutes February 20, 2014

#### Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

The Regular Meeting of the First Things First Cochise Regional Partnership Council was held on Thursday, February 20, 2014, at the Benson City Hall, 120 West Sixth Street, Benson, Arizona, 85602.

#### Council Members Present:

Marge Dailey, Chuck Hoyack (via phone), Dr. Stephen Poling, Melanie Rottweiler, Pastor Tommy Simpson, Jane Strain, Kathleen Vedock, Nancy-Jean Welker and Michael Vetter (via phone)

Council Members Absent: Danielle Brownrigg, and Rev. Shawn Buckhanan

Chair Rottweiler welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at approximately 1:08 p.m. Chair Rottweiler led the Regional Council Members and those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Chair Rottweiler explained to the Regional Council Members that they could declare their Conflicts of Interests at this time or wait until the specified agenda item. No conflicts were declared.

#### Call to the Public

Chair Rottweiler made a Call to the Public. There was one response to the Call to Public.

Ken James, City of Sierra Vista, presented the First Things First Regional Council with a Certificate of Appreciation and Recognition of Community Support Plaque for their sponsorship of the 2013 Children's Holiday Party.

Member Vetter arrived at 1:11pm via phone.

#### Discussion and Possible Approval of Minutes

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval of the November 21, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Member Strain to approve the November 21, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes; Member Vedock seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote by those members present (9-0-0).

### **Discussion and Approval of Sponsorships**

#### **A. Month of the Military Child - \$1,000**

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval of the sponsorship request for the Month of the Military Child in the amount of \$1,000.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Poling to approve the sponsorship request for the Month of the Military Child in the amount of \$1,000; Member Vedock seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote by those members present (9-0-0).

#### **B. City of Sierra Vista Eggstravaganza - \$1,800**

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval of the sponsorship request to the City of Sierra in the amount of \$1,800 for the Eggstravaganza Event.

A motion was made by Member Vedock to approve the sponsorship request to the City of Sierra in the amount of \$1,800 for the Eggstravaganza Event; Member Dailey seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote by those members present (9-0-0).

#### **C. Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse - \$1,800**

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval of the sponsorship request to the Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse in the amount of \$1,800 for their annual conference.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Poling to approve the sponsorship request to the Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse in the amount of \$1,800 for their annual conference; Member Vedock seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous vote by those members present (9-0-0).

### **Discussion and Presentation on Great Expectations**

#### **For Teachers, Children and Families Professional Development**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Jessica Brisson, Central Pima Director and Naomi Karp, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona. Ms. Brisson gave information about supporting Early Childhood Education Professional Development and the Communities of Practice program. Ms. Karp introduced herself and gave background information on the Great Expectations program. Ms. Karp gave a lengthy presentation about Great Expectations and showed the Cochise Regional Partnership Council a few of the books used in the program. Ms. Karp explained the handout provided to the Regional Council which included a diagram of the systems, programs, and guide lines for the Great Expectation program and the description for the Communities of Practice program. A lengthy discussion occurred after the presentation between the Regional Council, Ms. Karp and Ms. Brisson regarding the Great Expectation program and the information provided.

### **Discussion and Possible Approval on Regional School Readiness Benchmarks**

#### **A. Indicator 4 Data Summary**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Melissa Avant, Regional Director who introduced Dr. Amy Kemp, Evaluation Consultant who gave a brief overview of the Indicators the Regional Council prioritized. Dr. Kemp gave a lengthy presentation of the Administrative Data Set and a walk through of the cost per child for the Quality First scholarship program. Dr. Kemp explained and drew out figures and information for the Regional Council to make a decision regarding the percentage they felt comfortable publicly vetting for indicator four. A lengthy discussion between the Regional Council and Dr. Kemp on the suggested percentages, what they might look like in the future and the consequences that may happen proceeded.

Chair Rottweiler asked the Regional Council Members for a discussion and possible approval of the regional benchmark for indicator 4 at 100% of families receiving scholarships to be publicly vetted.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Poling to approve the regional benchmark for indicator 4 at 100% of families receiving scholarships to be publicly vetted; seconded by Member Dailey and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by those members present (9-0-0)

### **Review of SFY 2014 Grantee Financial Data and Narrative Reports- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

#### **A. Financial**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Ms. Avant who briefly explained the handouts provided in the packet. Ms. Avant explained that according to the reports submitted by the grantees that only 46.9% of the expenditures have been used thus far.

#### **B. Data – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

Ms. Avant briefly explained the number of families served and the caseload numbers for the first quarter for the Home Visitation program.

#### **C. Narrative – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

Ms. Avant explained that there have been no calls for Warmline in the past two quarters. Ms. Avant briefly informed the Regional Council that First Things First is supporting one therapist for the time being and spoke of the lack of therapists in the county.

### **Regional Director's Report**

Chair Rottweiler recognized Ms. Avant who gave an update on the following topics: The Regional Timeline for the upcoming year including presentations, events and dates, the Regional Benchmarking Process, a Public Vetting Meeting happening March 3, 2014, the First Things First State Board Meeting including that the Funding Plan was approved, information on the Finance Committee Meeting, a First Things First 2014 Summit update, information about the Regional Council Recruitment and that five seats may open up, information about the Regional Presentations to the State Board Ideas or suggestions and System Building Priorities and Tracking Update.

### **General Discussion**

Member Simpson – mentioned that he was glad to be at the meeting and to see faces he hasn't seen in quite a while if ever.

Member Dailey – Expressed her thanks to Ms. Avant for the wonderful presentation “Oh the Place You’ll Go”.

Member Welker – informed the Regional Council about the San Simon Literacy Organization and how they handed out 226 bags at Christmas time for the children. The children were very excited to receive the bags and loved the books. Member Welker expressed her thanks to First Things First for their donation of books.

Member Strain – mentioned that she is a member of the Communications and Government Relations Committee and that she receives emails regarding current events. Member Strain offered to forward the emails to other Regional Council Members if they would like. Member Strain mentioned that the council needs to continue to keep up and be vigil on to keep First Things First protected. To keep the First Things First message going accurately and let the communities know that First Things First is there and that they are doing good things for the community because political attacks will never stop. Member Strain addressed Ms. Avant about Public Private Partnerships and getting them Rolling. Ms. Avant explained the process to the Regional Council.

Vice Chair Poling – Gave Thanks to Ms. Avant for her excellent job and being so thorough in her work representing the Cochise Region and the First Things First work so well. Vice Chair Poling announced that he will be relocating sometime this year to the northern part of Arizona.

Chair Rottweiler – informed the Regional Council that she received a letter from Vice Chair Dr. Pamela Powell and proceeded to read the letter aloud to the Regional Council.

#### Announcements

Agenda item was tabled due to time restraints.

#### Adjournment

With no further business before the Regional Council, Chair Rottweiler adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Submitted By: Sarah Furnas  
Administrative Assistant II

Approved By:   
Chair, Melanie Rottweiler